GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1409
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST KASHMIRIS
Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kashmiris migrated and settled in different parts of the country since many years are subjected to a different procedure for getting their passports;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such treatment is not discriminatory against the civil rights to the Kashmiris living in different parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to simplify the procedure?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a),(b),(c) & (d): Migrants from Jammu & Kashmir living outside the State, are issued passports as expeditiously as possible, after prescribed security verification by the concerned agencies. This procedure has been laid down by the Ministry of Home Affairs in the light of security situation in the State.